

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Darby, et al

Serial No.: Unassigned

Filing Date: Herewith

For: A COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
INTERCONNECTED NETWORKS HAVING A LINEAR TOPOLOGY,
ESPECIALLY RAILWAYS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the subject application, please amend the subject
application as follows:

Please cancel Claims 1-21 without prejudice.

Please add the following new Claims 22-57:

-22. (New) A method of determining the physical order of plural railcars in a train
consist where the railcars are connected to each other through a pneumatic brake pipe and
an RF communication link and where the train consist includes at least one head end unit
(HEU), comprising the steps of:

a. transmitting a pneumatic pressure pulse along the brake pipe from a selected
HEU to the other railcars;

A2 sub.
B1